

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STONE INSTALLATION



ESTIMATING STONE REQUIREMENTS

In determining your requirements of flat stone, multiply the width times the height of your project. Subtract the area of any windows & doors or areas that will not be covered in your calculations. Corners are measured in the length to be covered. One lineal ft. of corner equals 1/2 a Sq. ft. of flat.

• Example: 20' x 8' = 160 Sq. ft. less opening 3' x 7' = 21 Sq. ft. and 2-8' corners means you require 160 - 21 - 8 = 131 Sq. ft. of flats. We suggest you order 5 to 10% extra for any miss cuts or unforeseen requirements. Final order will be lineal ft. of corner and 135 to 140 ft. of flats.

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

• Over your sheathing apply your building paper followed by metal lath, scratch coat & then the rock. Note: OSB is not recommended as if it gets any moisture it expands and could cause cracking of the stone & mortar.

• Apply the paper horizontally with a 3" overlap.

• Install galvanized metal lath. Make sure the cups of the lath are facing upwards. Lath should feel rough moving your hand down the sheet & smooth going up. Wrap the lath a minimum of 16" around corners. Overlap joints 3/8" on the horizontal & 1" on the vertical joints. Attach lath with galvanized nails or staples, 6" vertically & 16" horizontally.

• In preparing the mortar use type S or type N. We recommend using our manufactured stone mortar mix in either 55lb. or 80lb. bags. The consistency of the mix can be compared to baking a cake, the dough for the scratch coat & the icing for the grout application. A 55lb. bag is estimated to cover 10 Sq. ft. & the 80lb. bag, 15 Sq. ft.

• The scratch coat should be applied about 1/2" thick & left rough as with a rake to help the stone adhere. Now lay out about 30 Sq. ft. on a flat surface nearby to get the look of your finished product.

• Start with the corners first, as they will alternate in lengths, first a short one & then a longer one. Butter up the backs of each stone to about 1/2" of mortar & place firmly in position. Leave about 1/2" space between each rock, if you are going to be grouting the finished product otherwise they can be placed tightly together for the dry-stacked look.

• If you spill mortar on your stone, let it just set, wash off & brush away remaining particles. Apply Rocky Mountain **MANUFACTURED STONE CLEANER** for best results. **DO NOT USE ACID**, as it will harm your stone.

• If you have to trim or cut the stone, you can use a saw with a carborundum blade, nippers stone hammer or similar techniques to get the required length. Always use safety glasses & mask when cutting or chipping the stone.

There are 3 grouting applications: Dry-stacked • Regular or standard • Overgrouting

• Dry stacked joints should give the appearance of the rocks fitting tightly together • Standard joints have about 1/2" spacing for filling with grout. Using a grout bag, fill all around each stone & when the grout is just set to the touch, they can be scrapped to the depth you desire & finally brushed with a hand broom • Overgrout joints have excess mortar applied. This will give you the squeezed mortar look.

Colorant can be added to your mortar mix for different effects.

• **ROCKY MOUNTAIN STONE** can be applied direct over all concrete surfaces if they are free of all foreign particles. If really bad, a sandblasting program must take place otherwise you will have to install the metal lath with galvanized concrete nails & then proceed.

• If cement wall is too dry you must dampen with a spray mist on the wall & the stones themselves. This will allow better adhesion.

• Stagger all joint lines. Always step back periodically to make sure you like what you have accomplished.

This way you will be much happier with you finished project.

• Temperatures should be over 40°F or 4°C for applying rock.

• Don't forget all the accent pieces & trims that are available. There is post caps, window sills, key stones & hearthstones available.

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Summer store hours: April 1 - Nov 30

Mon to Fri: 8:00am - 8:00pm • Sat: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Sun: 10:00am - 5:00pm • Most Holidays 8:00am - 5:00pm

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